



COLUSA  
COUNTY  
FARM  
BUREAU

Paul Dabbs  
Statewide Planning Branch  
California Department of Water Resources  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

June 20, 2005

Re: California Water Plan  
Update 2005

Dear Mr. Dabbs;

On behalf of the Colusa County Farm Bureau we want to express our concerns about the Public Review Draft of the updated California Water Plan which purports to plan for California's water need for the next 25 years. As the state's number one industry we would like to voice our major concerns:

\* Population – The plan predicts that there will be a one third increase in the population in California. Where do you think the food to feed this population will come from? It would be a disaster for California and for the production of the food and fiber needed by our growing population if the need for agricultural water is not met.

\* Security – The increase of population and the lack of water available to farmers would result in future reliance on a net import of food. National Security would be in jeopardy as our dependency on food imports would grow.

\* Sound Science – Solutions to water quality, environmental protection, development of new water (water storage) and drought protection issues need to be based on sound science. The plan proposes the increase of water supplies for domestic needs of the growing population and provides more water for environmental protection. Where is this water coming from? There are no provisions for the development of new water.

California farmers provide the world's safest and least expensive food in the world. This Water Plan Update is flawed. Water for agriculture needs to be a priority.

We are encouraging our membership to attend the public hearings however the timing of the public hearings are difficult for farmers to participate in. June is a very busy month for farmers as we are planting the food and fiber of California.

Sincerely,

Michael Doherty  
President

Bus: (530) 458-5130  
Fax: (530) 458-5230  
E-mail: ccfb@colusanet.com

520 Market Street, Suite 1  
P.O. Box 1179  
Colusa, California 95932